

H.R. 2111. An act to extend the service area for the Sacramento Valley Canals, Central Valley project, Calif., and for other purposes;

H.R. 2145. An act for the relief of Florette Ivoree Gayle and Keisha Dajaran Karr;

H.R. 2170. An act to provide for the reimbursement of legal expenses incurred by the city of Fairfax with respect to a 1971 entry and search by employees of the Federal Government;

H.R. 2432. An act for the relief of Ronald Regespi Dolente;

H.R. 2533. An act for the relief of Mrs. Kerry Ann Wilson;

H.R. 3396. An act for the relief of George David Maxwell, doctor of medicine;

H.R. 4032. An act for the relief of Mahumud Ali Khan Fazal Dad;

H.R. 4793. An act for the relief of Simon Ifergan Mears;

H.R. 4941. An act to name a dam and reservoir on the San Gabriel River, Tex., as the "North San Gabriel Dam" and "Lake Georgetown," respectively;

H.R. 4966. An act for the relief of the estate Philip H. Ward;

H.R. 5016. An act for the relief of David Roland Weaver;

H.R. 5487. An act to designate certain National Forest System lands in the States of Colorado, South Dakota, Missouri, South Carolina, and Louisiana for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes;

H.R. 6000. An act for the relief of Campanella Construction Co., Inc.;

H.R. 6011. An act for the relief of William H. Koss;

H.R. 6044. An act for the relief of Woo Jung He;

H.R. 6069. An act for the relief of I Wen Chen;

H.R. 6739. An act to confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon Leopoldine Marie Schmid;

H.R. 6836. An act for the relief of James A. Schultz;

H.R. 7175. An act for the relief of the Woodstock Daily Sentinel;

H.R. 7217. An act to establish the Kalau-papa National Historical Park in the State of Hawaii, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7865. An act to provide for an accelerated and coordinated program of light water nuclear reactor safety research, development, and demonstration, to be carried out by the Department of Energy; and

H.R. 8345. An act to name the U.S. Customs House in Ogdensburg, N.Y., the "Robert C. McEwen United States Customs House."

On December 23, 1980:

H.R. 6796. An act to amend and extend title VII of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act;

H.R. 7306. An act to provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Nevada and for the acquisition of certain other lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7626. An act to amend title 37, United States Code, to improve certain special pay and allowance benefits for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7682. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide greater flexibility for the Armed Forces in ordering Reserves to active duty, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7709. An act to amend the Tariff Schedules of the United States to increase the quality of cigarettes that may be accorded duty-free treatment if acquired in the insular possessions and entered by returning U.S. residents;

H.R. 7814. An act to designate certain lands of the Fire Island National Seashore as the "Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness," and for other purposes; and

H.R. 8195. An act to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to extend certain cost-of-living increases.

On December 24, 1980:

H.R. 1196. An act to revise and improve the laws relating to the documentation of vessels, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3317. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 with respect to excise tax refunds in the case of certain uses of tread rubber, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3637. An act to carry out the obligations of the United States under the International Coffee Agreement 1976, signed at New York on February 27, 1976, and entered into force for the United States on October 1, 1976, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4698. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 with respect to net operating loss carryovers of taxpayers who cease to be real estate investment trusts, to increase interest rates on certain United States retirement bonds, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4774. An act to amend the National Labor Relations Act to provide that any employee who is a member of a religious sect historically holding conscientious objection to joining or financially supporting a labor organization shall not be required to do so;

H.R. 5043. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to provide for the tax treatment of bankruptcy, insolvency, and similar proceedings, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5391. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 with respect to the determination of second tier taxes, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5505. An act to simplify certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and for other purposes;

H.R. 6671. An act to unify the rules for preventing collisions on the inland waters of the United States, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7694. An act to authorize the Secretary of Defense to provide civilian career employees of the Department of Defense who are residents of Guam, the Virgin Islands, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico the same relative rotation rights as apply to other career employees, to authorize the Delegates in Congress from Guam and the Virgin Islands to have two appointments at a time, rather than one appointment, to each of the service academies, and to authorize the establishment of a National Guard of Guam; and

H.R. 8444. An act to authorize appropriations for certain insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes.

On December 28, 1980:

H.R. 4155. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to simplify private foundation return and reporting requirements, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5047. An act to provide for the temporary suspension of certain duties, to extend certain existing suspensions of duties, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5737. An act to amend the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 to allow recovery by U.S. nationals for losses incurred in Vietnam;

H.R. 5973. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to waive in certain cases the residency requirements for deductions or exclusions of individuals living abroad, to allow the tax-free rollover of certain distributions from money purchase pension plans, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7112. An act to authorize an extension and amendment of the revenue sharing program to provide general purpose fiscal assistance to local governments, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7171. An act to make certain miscellaneous changes in the tax laws;

H.R. 7956. An act to make various changes in the tax laws; and

H.R. 8406. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for medicare coverage of pneumococcal vaccine and its administration.

BILLS DISAPPROVED AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

The President announced his disapproval of the following bills with memorandums of disapproval as follows:

H.R. 5888

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I am withholding my approval of H.R. 5888, a bill that provides for payment of a \$50,000 lump-sum death benefit to survivors of Federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and certain other employees killed in the line of duty. This benefit would be paid in addition to the regular death benefits available to all Federal employees, and would be retroactive to September 26, 1976.

I am not approving H.R. 5888 because the special benefits it would provide are preferential and unwarranted, and because the bill would become a precedent for extension of similar benefits to other Federal employees.

My disapproval of this bill in no way reflects on the bravery and dedication of Federal employees in law enforcement and firefighting occupations. Nor does it in any way diminish the gratitude that I and this Nation feel for those who sacrifice their lives in the performance of their duty.

H.R. 5888 is objectionable because it would single out certain groups of employees for preferential treatment under the Federal employee workers' compensation law (FECA). Survivor benefits provided by the Federal Government should be adequate in all instances to ease the financial burden resulting from an employee's death, regardless of occupation. Moreover, there are many civilian employees outside the areas of law enforcement and firefighting who are also exposed to special hazards in their work. It is inequitable and unfair to provide a greater benefit to a select group of Federal employees based only on the nature of their employment. Such preferred treatment is directly contrary to the evenhandedness that must be basic to a workers' compensation system.

Under the existing FECA program, the Federal Government already pays generous death benefits to survivors of employees who die on the job. These benefits are tax-free and are adjusted annually for increases in the cost of living. Depending on family size, such benefits can be as high as 75 percent of the employee's salary while alive, and are limited in total amount and duration only by changed family circumstances. The Government's Group Life Insurance Program, which was recently liberalized for younger employees, also provides substantial protection in the event of an employee's death.

The proponents of H.R. 5888 argue that this legislation is needed to assure parity with State and local police and firefighters, who receive a \$50,000 death benefit under a law passed in 1976. However, one of the main reasons for enactment of that law was that States and localities' compensation systems were inadequate or nonexistent and that life insurance coverage was often unavailable. The Congress at that time expressly decided against granting the

\$50,000 death benefit to Federal firefighters and law enforcement officers because the benefits provided under FECA are comparatively generous and would in many cases exceed the \$50,000 payment authorized for State-local public safety officers.

Although the costs entailed in H.R. 5888 are not large, the special treatment provided by the bill would inevitably set a precedent for extension of its benefits to other, if not all, Federal employees who die in the line of duty. This would result in an unwarranted and costly added burden on the taxpayers of this Nation.

Finally, the retroactive provision in the bill is objectionable by arbitrarily excluding employees whose deaths occurred before the effective date.

For all of these reasons, I cannot approve H.R. 5888.

JIMMY CARTER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 23, 1980.

H.R. 4386

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I am withholding my approval from H.R. 4386, a bill "For the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Oveson."

H.R. 4386 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pay \$50,000 to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Oveson of Saint Louis and Koochiching Counties, Minnesota. The payment would be for full settlement of the Oveson's claims arising from the assumption of management by the United States of certain real property owned by the United States but occupied by the Ovesons. The payment would not affect any claims that the Ovesons might have arising from the loss of any structures affixed to the land. The Ovesons apparently purchased the land in question from another individual in good faith though title to the land actually rests with the U.S. Government as part of the Voyageurs National Park.

I am withholding my approval from H.R. 4386 because it would provide compensation to individuals who have occupied Federal lands without authority. Approval of this legislation would set a precedent of rewarding unauthorized users of Federal lands. It would not only undermine ongoing efforts by all Federal land management agencies to eliminate such uses but could also invite additional unauthorized use.

While I sympathize with the plight of the Ovesons, I cannot support the payment of taxpayers' funds to them to remedy a problem they have with other private individuals in a situation in which the United States Government was in no way at fault. I understand that there may be legal remedies available to the Ovesons against the person who improperly sold them land to which he did not have clear title.

JIMMY CARTER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 24, 1980.

H.R. 6257

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

I am withholding my approval of H.R. 6257, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System lands and for other pur-

poses. As originally introduced in Congress, this was a noncontroversial bill providing a simplified procedure for conveying small parcels of land within the National Forest System. Sections one through seven of the bill would accomplish this purpose. However, during the closing hours of the 96th Congress, a new section 8 was added that would adversely affect the Alaska Railroad, an agency of the Department of Transportation.

Section 8 would require the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations for the rental of Alaska Railroad lands under terms that would result in a loss of revenue to the Railroad, provide for inequitable treatment of different tenants, and create a complicated method for determining rents that would be extremely difficult to administer. It would further delay the Railroad's effort to raise its lease land rents to fair market value, and it would lock into statute past practices that have been criticized by the General Accounting Office and the Department of Transportation. It would also inhibit the Railroad's ability to establish a modern lease land development program consistent with normal commercial practice.

The Railroad is operated as a self-sustaining business by the Federal Government, to the benefit of the State of Alaska and its citizens. Rental income from rail lands is used to pay part of its operating costs. The loss of revenue resulting from this bill may force the Railroad to curtail service or require a new federal operating subsidy to make up the difference. A curtailment of service would injure those shippers and residents of Alaska who use the Railroad, and an increase in federal funds for the Railroad is unacceptable.

For these reasons, I am vetoing H.R. 6257. However, I support those provisions in the bill that would give the Secretary of Agriculture authority to dispose of small tracts of National Forest lands that have become difficult to administer efficiently. This authority, which the Department of Agriculture has been seeking for several years, would greatly facilitate the disposal of approximately 200,000 acres of National Forest lands that present special management problems and would eliminate the need for a case-by-case authorization from the Congress before such lands can be sold or exchanged. Therefore, I urge the 97th Congress to enact similar authority early next year.

JIMMY CARTER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 23, 1980.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER received the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C. December 18, 1980.
The Honorable BRENDAN T. BYRNE,
Office of the Governor,
Executive State House,
Trenton, N.J.

DEAR GOVERNOR BYRNE: In accordance with the law, I hereby resign as the Representa-

tive of the Fourth District of New Jersey effective midnight, December 29, 1980.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK THOMPSON, Jr.

Copies: Hon. Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives; Hon. Benjamin J. Guthrie, Sergeant at Arms; Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Pursuant to the order of the House on Dec. 4, 1980, the following report was filed on Dec. 19, 1980]

Mr. BROOKS: Committee on Government Operations. Report on Veterans Administration pays scant thought to Medicaid computer needs (Rept. No. 96-1538). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. DELLUMS: Committee on the District of Columbia. Activities and summary report of the Committee on the District of Columbia (Rept. No. 96-1539). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Pursuant to the order of the House on Dec. 16, 1980, the following report was filed on Dec. 22, 1980]

Mr. BROOKS: Committee on Government Operations. Report on the Government's classification of private ideas (Rept. No. 96-1540). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Pursuant to the order of the House on Dec. 4, 1980, the following report was filed on Dec. 22, 1980]

Mr. BROOKS: Committee on Government Operations. Report on allocation of budget totals by program (Rept. No. 96-1541). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Iowa: Committee on Small Business. Report on summary of activities of the Committee on Small Business, 96th Congress (Rept. No. 96-1542). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Pursuant to the order of the House on Dec. 4, 1980, the following report was filed on Dec. 29, 1980]

Mr. HANLEY: Committee on Post Office and Civil Service. Report pursuant to Section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Rept. No. 96-1544). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. GAIJMO: Committee on the Budget. Report on activities of the Committee on the Budget, 96th Congress (Rept. No. 96-1545). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. PERKINS: Committee on Education and Labor. Report on the activities of the Committee on Education and Labor during the 96th Congress (Rept. No. 96-1546). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WOLFF: Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. Annual report for the year 1980 of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control (Rept. No. 96-1547). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BENNETT: Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. Report on activities of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct during the 96th Congress (Rept. No. 96-1548). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.